
MEASURE M

FORESTHILL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX

Shall Foresthill Fire Protection District be allowed to collect a Special Tax to support the merger of the Safety Club Ambulance Service into the Fire District in order to continue emergency services on the Divide?

YES ____ NO ____

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY PLACER COUNTY COUNSEL

The Foresthill Fire Protection District proposes to impose a special tax to support the merger and maintenance of ambulance service as well as the transition from a volunteer fire department to a compensated department at a level of service deemed appropriate for the area (Resolution 2004-001).

The District is proposing to tax various classifications of parcels as detailed in the resolution referenced above. The tax proposed to be levied for each parcel during any fiscal year would be \$96.00 for a single family residence or mobile home, \$192.00 for 2 homes per parcel, \$96.00 per unit for duplexes, triplexes, and apartment dwellings, and \$384.00 per commercial/industrial parcel.

The District proposes that these tax rates would remain unchanged until June 30, 2007, and thereafter may be adjusted annually, at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the District for the ensuing fiscal year, using a designated Consumer Price Index published by the federal government.

This increased special tax would be an annual tax upon parcels of property commencing with the 2005-2006 tax year. The special tax would be collected in the same manner as the County collects ad valorem taxes.

A "YES" vote is a vote in favor of the Foresthill Fire Protection District special tax.

A "NO" vote is a vote against imposing the Foresthill Fire Protection District special tax.

Measure M must receive approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by the voters voting upon the measure to be considered approved by the voters.

Anthony J. La Bouff
County Counsel

By: Sabrina M. Thompson
Deputy County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE M

The Foresthill Safety Club has provided ambulance service to the Divide since 1955. However, last year they would have closed their doors without several extraordinary donations. Then emergency paramedic service would have to come from Auburn or even further. The Safety Club Board has requested that the ambulance service merge with the Foresthill Fire Protection District.

The Fire Protection District has long been a volunteer fire department serving the Foresthill Divide. In the days of lumber mill employment, volunteer firefighters worked in Foresthill and were available to fight fires and provide medical aid. Over the years, employment opportunities have changed. Currently, most of the District's volunteers work "off the hill". To cover the workweek, the District has hired some part-time firefighters. As they transition to a combination volunteer and paid force, more revenue will be needed. Unfortunately, existing property tax revenues are fully budgeted.

The Fire District is unable to add ambulance service within its current operating revenues, and therefore this special tax is required to keep emergency services at an acceptable level on the Foresthill Divide. That is why the

Fire District is asking you to approve a special tax of \$96.00 per year per home, or \$8.00 per month. This measure will raise about \$250,000 per year. These funds will be used to keep the ambulance service in Foresthill and to add paramedics and firefighters ensuring these services are available at all times.

Please join your neighbors to **SAVE OUR SAFETY SERVICES (SOS)**. By approving **Measure M**, you ensure that highly qualified medical and fire personnel will be there to assist you when you need them most.

VOTE YES ON M.

Rex Bloomfield, District 5 Supervisor
Edward N. Bonner, Placer County Sheriff
Bruce Kranz, District 5 Supervisor-Elect
Larry Mobley, Director/Secretary, Foresthill Divide Chamber of Commerce
Marjorie D. Jones, Foresthill Community Activist

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| <p>NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE M WAS SUBMITTED</p> |
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RESOLUTION NO. 2004 – 001

RESOLUTION TO ORDER AN ELECTION IN THE FORESTHILL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL TAX TO MERGE THE SAFETY CLUB AMBULANCE SERVICE UNDER THE FORESTHILL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, PROVIDE PERMANENT FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDICS, AND EMT'S.

Be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Foresthill Fire Protection District (herein after referred to as the "District") as follows:

1. The Board of Directors of said District finds and declares that the District is empowered to place property taxes and other fees and assessments on the ballot for the approval by the voters of the District as necessary in order to provide sufficient revenues to provide appropriate fire and life safety services.
2. The Board of Directors of this District and the Foresthill Safety Club have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding dated April 6, 2004, whereby the conditions are set forth for the ambulance service to merge under the authority of the Fire District.
3. The Board of Directors of this District finds that existing revenue sources cannot support the ambulance service nor support the transition from a volunteer fire department to a paid department at a level of service deemed appropriate for this area.
4. The Board of Directors of this District therefore determines that a Special Tax needs to be levied in accordance with Article 16 of the Government Code to provide the necessary revenues for adequate fire and life safety services that will fund permanent firefighter/paramedics and EMTs.
5. An election is hereby called and ordered for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters within the District the following proposition:
"Shall Foresthill Fire Protection District be allowed to collect a Special Tax to support the merger of the Safety Club Ambulance Service into the Fire District in order to continue emergency services on the Divide?"
6. A special tax to raise revenue to fund fire and life safety services is hereby levied upon real property within the District.
7. After careful review the rate of charge authorized herein shall be as follows for the 2005-2006 Fiscal Year. Special Tax rate and method for the special tax authorized hereby shall be as follows.
 - a. No charge for unimproved parcels. The Charge will be levied on all improved parcels with an assessed valuation of \$10,000.00 or more
 - b. Single Family or Mobile Home per parcel: \$ 96.00
 - c. 2 Homes per parcel: \$192.00
 - d. Duplexes, Triplexes and Apartments per dwelling unit: \$ 96.00
 - e. Mobile Home or Trailer park per space/parcel: \$ 96.00
 - f. Commercial/Industrial per parcel: \$384.00
 - g. Auxiliary structures to residential parcels shall be exempt.
 - h. Mobile Home or Trailer park will be assessed on occupied spaces as of March 1st of each year.

8. The amount of Special Tax specified in section 7 above shall remain unchanged until June 30, 2007 and thereafter may be adjusted annually, at the discretion of the Board of Directors of said District, for the ensuing fiscal year to reflect the Consumer Price Index prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, using the weighted average of Consumer Price Indexes (All Urban Consumers) for the State of California (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose), with the base year being June 1 2006. In the event that the Bureau shall cease to publish said index figure, then any similar index by another branch or department of the United States Government may be used in its place at the direction of the District. The District shall be responsible for making the necessary computations each year prior to submitting the required information to Placer County for collection.
9. The Special Tax shall take effect July 1, 2005 upon approval of two - thirds of the eligible voters, voting upon the adoption of such special tax at the election scheduled for November 2, 2004. The Special Tax shall remain in effect ad infinitum, or until the law no longer allows, or until such time as the Board of Directors of said District rescinds this Special Tax.
10. Upon approval of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, the County shall collect the charges, if approved by popular vote, in accordance and subject to the same penalty as other charges and taxes fixed and collected by or on behalf of the District.
11. In all particulars not recited in this resolution, said election shall be held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Elections Code of the State of California so far as the same shall be acceptable except as otherwise provided in the Fire Protection Law of 1961, as amended.
12. The District shall further notice this election by posting a copy of this resolution on or near the door of the District Office at least two weeks before the time scheduled for the election.
13. This Special Tax shall take effect as provided herein. If any section, subsection, sentence, phrase or clause of this resolution is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this resolution. The people of Foresthill Fire Protection District hereby declare that they would have adopted the resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, phrase or clause be declared invalid.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Foresthill Fire Protection District at a Special Meeting on June 8, 2004 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Sue Grant, Mike Odell, John Worton

NOES:

ABSENT: Ken Drone

ATTEST: Forrest Eklund, Chairman

ATTEST: Luana R. Dowling, Secretary to the Board